



# FIRST THINGS FIRST

*The right system for bright futures*

## GRAHAM/GREENLEE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL 2011 FUNDING PLAN SUMMARY

Regional Allocation 2011: \$731,985

Carry Forward from 2010: \$19,447

Funding Available for Allocation in 2011: \$751,432

Prioritized Needs	Goal Area	Proposed Strategies	Portion of Regional Allocation	Recommendation to the Board
Limited access to quality early care and education.	Quality, Access & Affordability	Strategy 1 Quality First	\$86,670	Recommend Approval
Limited access to quality early care and education.	Quality, Access & Affordability	Strategy 2 Access & Affordability	\$20,000	Not being submitted for Board approval
Limited access to parenting information or resources to support children's healthy growth and development.	Family Support/Early Literacy	Strategy 5 Early Childhood Literacy Project	\$110,000	Recommend Approval
Limited access to health professionals with specialized knowledge of children birth through age five.	Health	Strategy 7 Therapist Incentive	\$75,000	Recommend Approval
Families are at a higher risk for abuse and/or neglect due to the economic and employment recession.  Limited access to parenting information or resources to support children's healthy growth and development.	Family Support/Early Literacy	Strategy 8 Home Visitation	\$300,000	Recommend Approval
Limited access to parenting information or resources to support children's healthy growth and development.	Family Support/Early Literacy	Strategy 9 Food Assistance & Nutrition	\$10,000	Recommend Approval
Limited access to Oral Health Professionals and Services available to children birth through age five.	Health	Strategy 10 Oral Health	\$130,000	Not being submitted for Board approval
		<b>Subtotal of Expenditures</b>	<b>\$731,670</b>	
		<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$19,762</b>	
		<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$751,432</b>	



# Graham Greenlee Summary Financial Chart SFY 2010-2012

Revenue	SFY 2010	SFY 2011	SFY 2012 ESTIMATED	Total
FTF Total Allocation for the SFY	\$710,381	\$731,985	\$731,985	\$2,174,351
Fund Balance (carry forward from previous SFY)	N/A	\$19,447	\$19,762	
<b>Total Available Funds</b>	\$710,381	\$751,432	\$751,747	
Strategies	SFY 2010 OBLIGATED	SFY 2011 PROPOSED	SFY 2012 ESTIMATED	Total
1 Quality First	\$86,670	\$86,670	\$86,670	\$260,010
2 Access & Affordability	\$80,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$120,000
3 Immunizations	removed	removed	removed	\$0
4 Arizona Parent Kits	\$833	completed	completed	\$833
5 Early Childhood Literacy Project	\$100,000	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$320,000
6 Pediatric Incentive	removed	removed	removed	\$0
7 Therapist Incentive	\$150,000	\$75,000	\$37,500	\$262,500
8 Home Visitation	\$152,249	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$752,249
9. Food Assistance & Nutrition	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000
10. Oral Health	\$0	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$260,000
Emergency Food Boxes	\$3,280	\$0	\$0	\$3,280
Emergency Scholarships	\$113,402	\$0	\$0	\$113,402
Needs and Assets	\$4,500	\$0	\$4,500	\$9,000
<b>Subtotal Expenditures</b>	\$690,934	\$731,670	\$698,670	\$2,121,274
Fund Balance (carry forward)	\$19,447	\$19,762	\$53,077	
<b>Total</b>	\$710,381	\$751,432	\$751,747	



**GRAHAM/GREENLEE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL  
 FUNDING PLAN**

**SFY 2011: July 1, 2010– June 30, 2011**

**I. Regional Allocation**

Regional Allocation	SFY 2010	SFY 2011
Population Based Allocation	\$ 441,450	\$ 488,387
Discretionary: Baseline Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0
Discretionary: Frontier Community	\$ 152,249	\$ 122,961
Other Discretionary: Emergency Child Care Scholarships	\$ 113,402	
Other Discretionary: Emergency Food Support	\$ 3,280	
Other Discretionary: 2011		\$ 120,637
Other Income	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 710,381</b>	<b>\$ 731,985</b>



## II. SFY 2010 Funding Plan Progress Report

- A. The table below provides a summary of the Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council's prioritized needs, goals, key measures, and strategies for the SFY2010 funding plan.

Identified Need	Goal	Key Measures	Strategy Name and Description	Target Service Numbers and Geographic Service Area
Limited Access to Quality Early Care and Education	Quality and Access (#1) FTF will improve access to quality early care and education programs and settings	<p>Total number of early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system</p> <p>Total number of children enrolled in early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system</p> <p>Total number and percentage of early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system with a high level of quality as measured by an environmental rating scale</p> <p>Total number and percentage of early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system improving their environmental rating score</p>	<p><b>Strategy 1 Quality First Quality Improvement and Rating System</b></p> <p>This strategy is targeted to the 37 certified homes and 5 licensed child care and education centers within the Graham/Greenlee Region. It is intended to expand on the 1 medium center and 3 home providers being funded by the state.</p>	<p>Target Service Number 3 medium centers</p> <p>Region Wide</p>

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Limited Access to Quality Early Care and Education	Quality and Access (#3) FTF will increase availability and affordability of early care and education settings	Current cost of early care and education for families as a proportion of the median income for a family of four	(Removed Strategy) <b>Strategy 2a Statewide Pilot Study</b>	Target Service Number: 0 Removed Strategy
Limited access to parenting information or resources to support children's healthy growth and development	Family Support (#11) FTF will coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse and relevant information and resources to support their child's optimal development  (#12) FTF will increase the availability, quality and diversity of relevant resources that support language and literacy development for young children and their families	Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are satisfied with the accessibility of information and resources on child development and health  Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health, and well-being  Percentage of families of children birth through age five who report they maintain language and literacy rich home environments (e.g. children hear language throughout the day, children have opportunities for listening and talking with family members, books	<b>Strategy 2b Child Care Stipends</b> Child Care Stipends to Address Access to Early Care and Education  <b>Parent Kits</b> Distribute and promote use of Arizona Parent Kits to organizations serving young children birth through age five. This strategy is intended to target families with children ages zero through five within the Graham/Greenlee Region (that did not receive kits in the hospital)  <b>Early Childhood Literacy Project</b> Early Childhood Literacy Project: Parent education and books to children's homes. This strategy is intended to target families with children birth through age five within the Graham/Greenlee Region.	Target Service Number: 240 \$300 monthly stipends  Region Wide  <b>Target Service Number: 100</b> Kits  Region Wide  <b>Target Service Number:</b> 500 attendees to events  1,500 children enrolled in book club  Region Wide

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		and other literacy tools and materials are available and accessible to children)		
		Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report reading to their children daily in their primary language		
		Percentage of families who report they are satisfied with the level of coordination and communication among agencies serving their children		
Limited access to health professionals with specialized knowledge of children birth through age five	<b>Health</b> (#4) FTF will collaborate with existing Arizona early childhood health care systems to improve children's access to quality health care	Retention rates of early childhood development and health professionals  Total number and percentage of professionals who work with young children, outside of early care and education, who hold a credential, certificate, or degree in early childhood development or other appropriate specialty area	<b>Therapist Incentive</b>  Increase the number of therapists with expertise with the zero through age five population by offering student loan repayment and/or stipends as incentives to live and work in the region for a minimum of 2 years	<b>Target Service Number:</b> 2 Speech & Language Pathologists, 1 Physical Therapist & 1 Occupational Therapist  Region Wide
Families are at a higher risk for abuse and/or neglect due to the	<b>Parent Support</b> (#11) FTF will	Percentage of families with children birth through age five who	<b>Home Visitation</b>  Expand existing programs that	<b>Target Service Numbers:</b> 55 families



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economic and employment recession	<p>coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality diverse and relevant information and resources to support their child's optimal development</p> <p>(#12) FTF will increase the availability, quality, and diversity of relevant resources that support language and literacy development for young children and their families</p>	<p>report they are satisfied with the accessibility of information and resources on child development and health</p> <p>Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health, and well being</p>	<p>focus on parent education, support, and resources including increase of home visiting and parent mentoring programs with an emphasis on expanding into Greenlee County. This strategy is intended to target 55 families with children birth through age five who are at risk for child abuse and/or neglect in the Graham/Greenlee Region</p>	Region Wide
Statewide - economic and employment recession	<p>(#11) FTF will coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse and relevant</p>	<p>Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health, and well being</p>	<p>Emergency Food Boxes</p>	<p>Target Service Numbers: \$3,280 for 149 Food Boxes</p> <p>Region Wide</p>

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	Information and resources to support their child's optimal development.			
Statewide - economic and employment recession	(#3) FTF will increase availability of and affordability of early care and education settings.	Current cost of early care and education for families as a proportion of the median income for a family of four. Total number of children enrolled and vacancies in regulated early care and education programs as a proportion of total population birth through age five	Emergency Child Care Scholarships	Target Service Numbers: \$113,402 for 54 \$525 scholarships x 4 months  Region Wide
Planning	(#14) FTF will collect and disseminate accurate and relevant data related to early childhood development and health		Evaluation	\$8,900
Planning	(#14) FTF will collect and disseminate accurate and relevant data related to early childhood development and health		Needs and Assets	\$5,000

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**B. 1) Budget Summary, 2010 Funding Plan**

A	B	C	D
SFY 2010 BUDGET	SFY 2010 CURRENT	Obligated in SFY 2010	Unobligated in SFY 2010
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	\$710,381	\$710,381	\$710,381
Strategies	SFY 2010	SFY 2010	SFY 2010
1 Quality First	\$86,670	\$86,670	\$0
2 Child Care Stipends	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$0
4 Arizona Parent Kits	\$5,000	\$833	\$4,167
5 Early Childhood Literacy Project	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0
7 Therapist Incentive	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0
Home Visitation	\$152,249	\$152,249	\$0
Emergency Food Boxes*	\$3,280	\$3,280	\$0
Emergency Child Care*	\$113,402	\$113,402	\$0
Needs and Assets	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$500
Evaluation	8,900	\$0	\$8,900
<b>Subtotal</b>	\$704,501	\$690,934	\$13,567
<b>Fund Balance/Carry Forward</b>	\$5,880		\$5,880
<b>Total</b>	\$710,381	\$690,934	
<b>Carry Forward Plus Unobligated - available for 2011 funding plan</b>			<b>\$19,447</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>

2) Progress with SFY 2010 Funding Plan

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
#	Strategy Name	Description	Regional Allocation	Target Service Numbers	Awards Made	Service Numbers	Status/Notes
1	Quality First	Expand Quality First to add three medium centers	\$86,670	Fund 3 medium centers in addition to the 1 medium center and 3 home providers funded through the state	FTF Statewide Initiative	2 medium centers enrolled	2 centers awarded 1 center vacancy
2b	Child Care Stipends	Quality Stipends to address access to quality early care and education	\$80,000	240 (\$300 monthly stipends for up to 12 months)	Grant Agreement with VSUW	0 stipends have been awarded (will not start up until emergency scholarships have been fully utilized)	Stipends will be administered through the region's administrative home, Valley of the Sun United Way. Stipends will not begin until the emergency scholarships are depleted, estimated to begin March 2010
4	Arizona Parent Kits	Distribute and promote use of Arizona Parent Kits to organizations serving very young children	\$5,000	55 Kits to 10 Agencies	State Procurement	55 Kits to 10 Agencies	Distribution and orientation to agencies occurred on Sept. 29 <sup>th</sup> . 55 Kits distributed. Cost of 55 kits is \$833. \$4,167 will carry forward to SFY2011

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5	Early Childhood Literacy Project	Literacy and reading activities with parents, families caregivers and children  High quality children's books delivered to children's homes monthly (ages 0-5)	\$50,000	500 Attendees from the region	Safford City-Graham County Library  \$100,000 awarded	500 Attendees to date  1,076 Children to date	Request for Grant Application awarded to Safford City-Graham County Library Services began on July 1 <sup>st</sup>
7	Therapist Incentive	Increase the number of therapists with expertise in the zero through five age population by offering student loan repayment and/or stipends as incentives to live and work in the region for a minimum of 2 years	\$150,000	4 therapists to serve children ages zero through five throughout the region	Grant Agreement with Arizona Department of Health Services	2 Speech & Language Pathologists, 1 Physical Therapist & 1 Occupational Therapists are expected to be recruited through this strategy	Regional Council voted to fund this strategy by combining funds from Strategies #3 and #6  Signed ISA with ADHS on October 5, 2009 Beginning services date is yet to be determined
	Home Visitation	Prevention of abuse and neglect through home visitation	\$152,249	55 Families who are at risk for child abuse and/or neglect	Expedited Emergency Bid Waiver Child & Family Resources	Service Numbers: 17 families have been served to date	Request for Grant Application awarded to Child & Family Resources, Inc. Services began on April 13, 2009
	Emergency Food boxes	Emergency Food Boxes First Things First's Board of Directors and its Regional	\$3,280	Target Service Numbers: 149 Boxes	FTF Statewide Initiative Expedited Emergency Response Graham County Interfaith Alliance	Service Numbers: 149 boxes	Expedited Agreements through Emergency Response Opportunity



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		Partnership Councils have authorized that funds be allocated through this expedited process to meet the needs of families of children ages 0-5 who are at-risk for hunger						
Emergency Scholarships	Emergency Child Care Scholarships First Things First's Board of Directors and its Regional Partnership Councils have authorized that funds be allocated through this expedited process to meet the needs of families of children ages 0-5 to help keep families working, help parents find work or support parents seeking new job skills to attain or maintain employment	\$113,402	Target Service Numbers: 54 Scholarships	FTF Statewide Initiative Expedited Emergency Response Administrative Home: Valley of the Sun United Way	Service Numbers: 22 Scholarships have been awarded as of September 30 <sup>th</sup>	Expedited Agreement through Emergency Response Opportunity		

### **III. SFY 2011 Funding Plan**

#### **A. Prioritized Needs: Provide explanation for any changes to the prioritized needs from the SFY 2010 Regional Funding Plan.**

The Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council has examined the priorities set in SFY2010 and based upon the identified needs and assets of the region; the Regional Council has maintained the following list of prioritized needs to address in SFY2011 and the next three-year period:

1. Limited Access to Quality Early Care and Education
2. Limited access to parenting information or resources to support children's healthy growth and development
3. Limited access to health professionals with specialized knowledge of children birth through age five
4. Families are at a higher risk for abuse and/or neglect due to the economic and employment recession

Based upon the identified needs and assets of the region, the Regional Council will maintain the priorities established in SFY2010 with the addition of the following:

5. Limited access to Oral Health Professionals and Services available to children birth through age five

B. Goals, Key Measures and Strategies: Include in the table below the prioritized needs, goals, key measures and strategies for SFY 2011. Highlight any changes from the previous year.

Identified Need	Goal	Key Measures	Strategy Name and Description	Targeted Service Numbers and Geographic Service Area
Limited Access to Quality Early Care and Education	Quality and Access (#1) FTF will improve access to quality early care and education programs and settings	Total number of early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system  Total number of children enrolled in early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system  Total number and percentage of early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system with a high level of quality as measured by an environmental rating scale  Total number and percentage of early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system improving their environmental rating score	Strategy #1 Quality First  The Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council is funding 3 medium centers in addition to the 1 medium center and 3 home providers funded through the statewide strategy	Target Service Numbers: 3 medium centers in the Region  Region Wide  \$86,670

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Limited Access to Quality Early Care and Education	Quality and Access (#3) FTF will increase availability and affordability of early care and education settings	Current cost of early care and education for families as a proportion of the median income for a family of four	Strategy #2 <b>Access &amp; Affordability</b> <u>Quality Early Care and Education</u>  <u>This strategy will be developed to address access and affordability needs in the region pending the development of a statewide access and affordability strategy.</u>	<u>Target Service numbers:</u> <b>TBD</b>  Region Wide  \$20,000
Limited access to parenting information or resources to support children's healthy growth and development	Family Support (#11) FTF will coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse and relevant information and resources to support their child's optimal development.  (#12) FTF will increase the availability, quality and	Percentage of families of children birth through age five who report they maintain language and literacy rich home environments (e.g. children hear language throughout the day, children have opportunities for listening and talking with family members, books and other literacy tools and materials are available and accessible to children)  Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report reading to their children daily in their primary language	Strategy #5 <b>Early Childhood Literacy Project</b>  <u>Early Childhood Literacy Project to work in conjunction with home visiting programs to provide support for parents to promote language acquisition, literacy and school readiness and to increase parent involvement and family literacy.</u>	<u>Target Service numbers:</u> 2,000 children birth through age five  Region Wide  \$110,000



	diversity of relevant resources that support language and literacy development for young children and their families	Percentage of families who report they are satisfied with the level of coordination and communication among agencies serving their children		
Limited access to health professionals with specialized knowledge of children birth through age five	<b>Health</b> (#4) FTF will collaborate with existing Arizona early childhood health care systems to improve children's access to quality health care	Retention rates of early childhood development and health professionals  Total number and percentage of professionals who work with young children, outside of early care and education, who hold a credential, certificate, or degree in early childhood development or other appropriate specialty area	<b>Strategy #7 Therapist Incentive</b>  Increase the number of therapists with expertise in the zero through age five population by offering tuition support as incentives to live and work in the region for a minimum of 2 years upon completion of their designated therapist program	<b>Target Service Numbers:</b> <u>2 Students in therapy programs</u>  Region Wide  \$75,000
Families are at a higher risk for abuse and/or neglect due to the economic and employment recession  Limited access to parenting information or resources to	<b>Family Support</b> (#11) FTF will coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality diverse	Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are satisfied with the accessibility of information and resources on child development and health  Percentage of families with children birth through age five who	<b>Strategy #8 Home Visitation</b>  Expand existing programs that focus on parent education, support, and resources including increase of home visiting and parent mentoring programs with an emphasis on expanding into Greenlee County	<b>Target Service Numbers:</b> <u>110 families</u>  Region Wide  \$300,000



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support children's healthy growth and development	and relevant information and resources to support their child's optimal development  (#12) FTF will increase the availability, quality, and diversity of relevant resources that support language and literacy development for young children and their families	report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health, and well being  Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report reading to their children daily in their primary language		
Limited access to parenting information or resources to support children's healthy growth and development	<b>Family Support</b>  (#11) FTF will coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse and relevant information and resources to	Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are satisfied with the accessibility of information and resources on child development and health  Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are competent and confident about their	<b>Strategy #9</b> <b>Food Assistance and Nutrition</b>  Support the region's families that have been impacted by the economic crisis by expanding access to nutritious food and providing resources and information that support the needs of families with children birth through age five	<b>Target Service Numbers:</b> 500 children  Region Wide  \$10,000

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	support their child's optimal development.	ability to support their child's safety, health, and well-being		
Limited access to Oral Health Professionals and Services available to children birth through age five	<p><b>Health</b></p> <p>(#5) FTF will build on current efforts to increase the number of Health Care Providers utilizing a medical and dental home.</p>	<p>Total number and percentage of children receiving appropriate and timely oral health visits</p> <p>Total number and percentage of oral health care providers utilizing a dental home model</p>	<p><u>Strategy #10</u></p> <p><u>Oral Health</u></p> <p><u>This strategy is pending development</u></p>	<p><u>Target Service Numbers:</u></p> <p><u>180</u></p> <p>Region Wide</p> <p>\$130,000</p>

**C. New Strategies. For each new strategy complete a strategy worksheet. (Appendix A)**

**List of strategies:**

**Strategy 8: Home Visitation**

(moving from expedited strategy into regionally funded strategy)

It is the Regional Council's desire to expand existing programs that focus on parent education, support, and resources including increase of home visiting and parent mentoring programs with an emphasis on expanding into Greenlee County.

**Strategy 9: Food Assistance and Nutrition**

(moving from expedited strategy into regionally funded strategy)

The Regional Council wishes to create or expand on current resources that support families in economic crisis and who lack availability of resources, such as food and supplies that help address economic needs of families with children ages zero through five.

**Strategy 10: Oral Health**

(new strategy placeholder)

The Regional Council intends to gather additional information that will inform the development of an oral health strategy and make funding allocation decisions based on achieving a desired outcome and complementing existing community assets to effectively address this need.

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**D. Summary Financial Chart SFY 2010-2012**

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2 Access & Affordability	\$80,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$120,000
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4 Arizona Parent Kits	\$833	completed	completed	\$833
5 Early Childhood Literacy Project	\$100,000	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$320,000
6 Pediatric Incentive	removed	removed	removed	\$0
7 Therapist Incentive	\$150,000	\$75,000	\$37,500	\$262,500
8 Home Visitation	\$152,249	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$752,249
9. Food Assistance & Nutrition	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000
10. Oral Health	\$0	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$260,000
Emergency Food Boxes	\$3,280	\$0	\$0	\$3,280
Emergency Scholarships	\$113,402	\$0	\$0	\$113,402
Needs and Assets	\$4,500	\$0	\$4,500	\$9,000
<b>Subtotal Expenditures</b>	\$690,934	\$731,670	\$698,670	\$2,121,274
Fund Balance (carry forward)	\$19,447	\$19,762	\$53,077	
<b>Total</b>	\$710,381	\$751,432	\$751,747	



**E. Provide explanation for each strategy which has funding level changes from prior year.**

**Strategy 2: Child Care Stipends**

The Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council will decrease the allocation from \$80,000 to \$20,000 for SFY2011. The Emergency Child Care Scholarships for SFY2010 are not anticipated to be fully depleted until March 2010. That is when the Child Care Stipends will go into effect. Therefore, we are anticipating carry over into SFY2011 and desire to use the unexpended balance for a strategy that will support access and affordability within the region. It is the desire of the Regional Council to delay making a decision on this strategy until an access and affordability statewide strategy is developed, therefore will not be implementing the child care stipends at this time.

**Strategy 4: Parent Kits**

The Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council will eliminate the funding for this strategy. Because the Parent Kits are not being used as consumables, but rather to be used on an ongoing basis, it was felt this was not a strategy that needed to be continued. The startup cost to establish the infrastructure for this strategy has been met. The goal of the Regional Council to distribute as an educational, ongoing tool will continue through the efforts of the agencies that have expressed their interest in implementing this as an education program for parents in their programs.

**Strategy 5: Early Childhood Literacy Project**

The Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council will increase the allocation from \$100,000 to \$110,000 for SFY2011. It is the desire of the Regional Council to increase the service numbers from 1,500 children to 2,000 children, thus serving 67 percent of the children in the Graham/Greenlee Region through this Early Childhood Literacy Project.

**Strategy 7: Therapist Incentive**

The Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council will decrease the allocation from \$150,000 to \$75,000 for SFY2011. The second year of this strategy is intended to financially support two students in therapist programs to compliment the four therapists initially attracted to the region. It is the intent of the Regional Council to support the continuation of therapist services for young children in our region by meeting the needs of families with children birth through age five who have developmental delays for years to come.

**Strategy 8: Home Visitation**

The Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council will increase the allocation from \$152,249 to \$300,000 for SFY2011. Originally this strategy was funded by our Regional Council for the prevention of abuse and neglect using the Frontier Community Funding awarded to our region. It is felt by our Regional Council that this is an area of great need and that only the neediest of the needy are currently being served and that there are families and children not being reached during this economic and employment downturn that are at risk for abuse and/or neglect. The emphasis in this home visitation strategy is to stabilize the family, prevent child abuse and neglect, and provide information and resources based on the individual needs of the specific family.



## IV System Impact

Throughout the development of the SFY2011 Funding Plan, the Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council envisioned an early childhood system that provides services and assistance to meet the varying needs of young children and their families across the region. To this end, the Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council has developed a plan that acknowledges that all families should have access to universal services such as high-quality parenting and support information as well as affordable early care and education. Some families will require more targeted services that address risk factors and still others may require intensive services to support their child's healthy growth and development.

The 2008 Needs and Assets Report painted a picture of the lack of adequate and appropriate early childhood oral health services, inadequate access to parenting information and resources to support children's healthy growth and development, and the lack of health professionals with specialized knowledge of children birth through age five. In addition, the current economic downturn has greatly impacted families with layoffs of 25 percent, or approximately 1,100 primary wage earners, in the past year by the region's largest employer, Freeport McMoRan, Inc. The domino effect on other employment in the Graham/Greenlee Region has significantly impacted families with young children. Therefore, the Regional Council considered the basic infrastructure needed to build an early childhood development and health system, the appropriate scope and reach of our identified strategies and how the changing economic climate impacts children in the region.

In developing our strategies, the Regional Council specifically addressed the need for varying levels of family support. The Graham Greenlee Regional Council believes that children and families can best be supported in the context of the family setting and by providing family support via a child centered, family focused approach. Ranging from universal to more intensive methodologies, the continuum of services proposed will build on families' strengths while laying a solid foundation of support to all families with young children.

This continuum of evidence-based practices starts with the universal, multi-age literacy strategy and increases in intensity and focus to the comprehensive home visitation program. Any family with a child birth through age five and child care programs servicing this age group will have access to the Early Childhood Literacy Project offered through the local community library system. In an effort to maximize the reach of the program effort, collaboration will occur with additional community agencies such as early care and education programs, home visiting programs, Women, Infants and Children (WIC), and those sponsoring community events. The distribution of high quality children's books encourages family and caregiver bonding, as well as early literacy, as families begin their own home library collections and providers receive in-service early literacy training. This strategy supports early literacy skills and increases school readiness, as it empowers

child care providers with training and resources and honors parents as their child's first teacher with activities and other supportive programming.

Some families will be in need of more focused support, therefore, the proposed family support continuum includes a home visitation strategy that intentionally addresses families' needs at a more targeted level of support. Research has shown that home visitation programs, that are intended to address parent/child outcomes related to child abuse and neglect, have a high success rate. The additional in-home supports provided to high risk families through these programs have decreased the incidences of abuse and neglect. The emphasis in home visitation is to stabilize the family, prevent child abuse and neglect, and provide information and resources based on the individual needs of the specific family. These services are targeted only to those families that need this additional level of support. Specifically, home visitors will support the development of early literacy skills and family bonding by expanding the Early Childhood Literacy Project to families in their homes, encouraging and modeling reading habits to parents, enrolling them in this early literacy program, and providing support with parenting and other resources and information. For example, if childhood hunger is identified during a home visit, the home visitor will network with organizations that address food insecurities and direct the family to the local food program implementing the food assistance and nutrition strategy. Likewise, home visitors will refer families to oral health and therapist services.

To provide even more support to families experiencing hardship due to the economic downturn, layoffs recently experienced within this region and other social stressors, the Regional Council has developed a family support strategy that will additionally assist vulnerable families at a more intensive level. The emphasis of this strategy is to support the region's families that have been impacted by the economic crisis by expanding access to nutritious food and providing resources and referral information.

Supporting families in the Graham-Greenlee Region means supporting them in different settings, in different ways, and with different levels of intensity. The coordinated services of our family support continuum have the potential to provide direct service to nearly 91 percent of all children birth through age five and their families residing in the Graham/Greenlee Region.

The Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council recognizes the need to build an early childhood development and health system for the children and families in our region that complements system building on a statewide level and that recognizes the unique character and traditions of our region. Building an infrastructure to address the needs of young children in the region is a high priority of the Regional Council.

One of the identified needs in the region is oral health. Currently, 100 percent of the 936 children, birth through age five, who qualify for state assisted healthcare (AHCCCS) cannot access oral health services because there are no local providers that accept AHCCCS insurance. The Regional Council



intends to gather additional information that will inform both the development of an oral health strategy and funding allocation decisions to achieve desired oral health outcomes. Additional needs for infrastructure building, has prompted the Regional Council to develop a strategy that addresses the shortage of local speech, occupational and physical therapists. The first year of this strategy is intended to attract four therapists to live in the Graham/Greenlee Region and work with young children who have suspected or identified developmental delays for a minimum of two years. The second and third years of this strategy will financially support students in professional programs to complement the four therapists initially attracted to the region as they too agree to live in the region and work with young children for a minimum of two years upon completion of their programs. It is the intent of the Regional Council to support the continuation of therapist services for young children in our region by meeting the needs of families with children birth through age five who have suspected or identified developmental delays for years to come so that services are not interrupted and there is an assurance of this service for years to come. The Regional Council seeks to impact 100 percent of children birth through age five in need of therapist services.

Understanding that the most likely place for a child to receive care other than the home is in a regulated or lawfully unregulated child care program, the Regional Council supports an investment in the improvement of quality of care in out-of-home settings and the continuing professional development of the early childhood workforce. Considerable evidence suggests that more capable and qualified professionals will provide improved care for children resulting in better developmental outcomes. Therefore, to impact the quality of care universally for children birth through age five in our region, the Regional Council will continue to financially support three centers in Quality First in addition to the one center and three home providers currently funded by the statewide Quality First Program. This will allow us to reach 80 percent of the child care centers in our region and to focus resources to secondary caregivers. In this way, we are able to complement the vast array of family support strategies provided to primary caregivers.

It is the Regional Council's intent, with its SFY2011 Funding Plan, to make a systemic change to the system of services for young children and their families through coordination and family support, building on the existing assets in the region such as quality early literacy projects and home visitation programs, and addressing unmet needs such as the lack of oral health services and the shortage of therapists. Throughout the region, child care, early education, health and social services are fragmented, with minimal coordination of services. This makes it difficult for both families and service providers to navigate the various services and systems of services. As part of the implementation of the SFY2010 Funding Plan, the strategies were carefully aligned and all grantees, including those with Interagency Service Agreements, are required to participate in regional collaboration efforts, as well as cross regional efforts. The strategies presented in this funding plan focus on building and sustaining the capacity and the coordination of local programs to engage in the ongoing work of community change in a joint, rather than an isolated, approach. Further, the Regional Council has established workgroups that will continue to collaborate with community partners to further regional coordination efforts throughout the next year. The

Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council will continue to work with community partners to create a system that builds and sustains coordination and collaboration among the network of early childhood and health programs and services in the region. This will include licensed child care providers, preschool programs, food programs, libraries, and home visiting programs, as well as the informal networks of people or associations within neighborhoods in which families participate to build a web of social support. The goal is to produce higher quality services and obtain better outcomes for our children through a system of early childhood development that is intentional and coordinated.



## Appendix A STRATEGY WORKSHEET

### Strategy 8:

#### Strategy Name: Home Visitation

**Strategy Description:** This strategy is designed to empower parents to obtain the support that they need to be effective parents in raising healthy children that are ready to learn. The model proposed builds on the research from home visitation models that have been shown to be highly effective in supporting parents to feel competent in their abilities to promote the healthy development of their children. The home visitation model has shown parental knowledge around parent/child relationships and early childhood development, which provides parents and other caregivers with skills and knowledge needed to enhance a child's social/emotional, cognitive and physical development.

By enhancing and expanding existing home visiting programs in the Graham/Greenlee Region, more young children birth through age five, will receive appropriate screening, care coordination, linkages to community resources, child development information, health and nutrition training, parenting education and literacy activities focusing on insuring that children have every opportunity for school success. This is a comprehensive approach that supports mothers and fathers in their roles as nurturers of the emotional, behavioral, intellectual, and physical growth of their children.

#### Program Components Include:

1. Home visits from trained Family Support Specialists
2. Home visitation will include:
  - Ongoing education by a Family Support Specialist who follows up at key stages of development and supports parents' understanding of their child's developmental ages and stages through integration and utilization of the New Directions "Brain Box".
  - Educational materials on proper nutrition, health information and materials to address everyday issues such as proper prenatal nutrition, post delivery nutrition, breast feeding, bottle feeding, transitioning to food, sleeping, crying, and early literacy.

Currently, there are two agencies providing home visiting programs offered to families with young children. All programs are operating at full capacity. Child and Family Resources and Easter Seals Blake Foundation provide home visiting parent education and training to pregnant mothers and families with young children.

#### Research Notes:

(2008) "Evidence-Based Early Childhood Home Visitation Programs" [www.homevisitingcoalition.org](http://www.homevisitingcoalition.org)

#### Lead Goal:

FTF will coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse and relevant information and resources to support their child's optimal development.

**Goal:** The Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council will collaborate with existing Arizona early childhood health care systems to improve children's access to quality health care.



**Key Measures:**

Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are satisfied with the accessibility of information and resources on child development and health.

Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health, and well-being.

Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report reading to their children daily in their primary language.

**Target Population:**

Targeting families with children birth through age five. The program will focus on reaching families prenatally and continuing to support families after the birth.

Proposed Service Numbers	SFY2011 July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011	SFY2012 July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012	SFY2013 July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013
	110 families	110 families	110 families

**Performance Measures:**

Total number of children receiving service coordination  
Total number of families engaged in ongoing home visits  
Percent of first time mothers served by the program  
Percent of families that report satisfaction with home visiting support  
Percent of families showing increases in parenting knowledge and skill  
Number and percent of expectant mothers receiving regular prenatal care

**SFY2011 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy**

Population-based Allocation for proposed strategy	\$300,000
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**Budget Justification:**

Budget projections have been based on providing services to 110 families using an estimated cost of \$2,727 per family. (\$2,727 × 110= \$300,000)

**Strategy 9:**

**Strategy Name: Food Assistance and Nutrition**

**Strategy Description:** Support the region's families that have been impacted by the economic crisis by expanding access to nutritious food and providing resources and information that support the needs of families with children birth through age five. This strategy will be addressed through the coordination of local community resources in provision of basic childhood necessities.

The First Things First Board recognized and responded to the hardships endured by families due to the economy's state of crisis. During times of economic downturn, the rural and Tribal communities historically require a longer time to recover, mainly due to the limited economic supports. Specifically, in the rural communities within the Graham/Greenlee Region, families have been devastated as they continue to experience the affects of the lay-offs within the last year by the region's largest employer.

According to the 2008 Graham/Greenlee Needs and Assets Report, the median annual income of families in this region is at or below Federal Poverty Guidelines and unemployment within the region continues.

<sup>1</sup> According to a published report in the journal *Pediatrics* in January 2008, researchers from Boston University School of Medicine and Boston Medical Center found that children living in households with food insecurity are more likely to be at developmental risk during their first three years of life, compared to similar households that are not food insecure. <sup>2</sup> The Regional Partnership Council has put forth a strategy for supporting families in need of food assistance, providing education on the nutritional needs of children, and referring families to local resources that will assist families in obtaining stability in their children's lives.

The Regional Council concluded that the families in the region continue to experience hardship and food insecurity. One local food bank provider reported an increase in demand from seven food boxes per week to 100 food boxes per week in the last year. Because eating patterns are formed early in life and may be carried into adulthood, healthful eating habits need to be developed early on. The food assistance provided with this strategy must be nutritious and follow the USDA Food Guide Pyramid. Additionally, families will be supported through the provision of basic childhood necessities such as, but not limited to, baby formula, diapers, education on diaper hygiene, information on nutritional value of food and community resources that support families in need. The grantee carrying out this strategy will need to utilize a positive and family-centered approach when working with families and referring them to these local resources.

The success of this strategy will require coordination with: 1) the family support and nutrition education programs in the community to ensure the community's resources are maximized to serve families, and 2) other FTF funded programs that provide direct services to families. First Things First funding may not supplant services currently available or covered by existing federal funding or other existing sources.

1. Arizona Department of Commerce, Research Administration. Arizona Unemployment Statistics Program Special Unemployment Reports (2000-2007)
2. Association of Arizona Food Banks. *Hunger in America 2006 Arizona Report.*



<b>Lead Goal:</b> Coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse and relevant information and resources to support their child's optimal development.			
<b>Goal:</b> Collaborate with existing Arizona early childhood health care systems to improve children's access to quality health care.			
<b>Key Measures:</b> Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are satisfied with the accessibility of information and resources on child development and health.  Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health, and well-being.			
<b>Target Population:</b> The region's children birth through age five and their families experiencing financial hardships and food insecurities.			
<b>Proposed Service Numbers</b>	<b>SFY2011 July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011</b>	<b>SFY2012 July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012</b>	<b>SFY2013 July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013</b>
	500 children	500 children	500 children
<b>Performance Measures:</b>  Number of children provided with food assistance/Proposed service number Number of parents who received education on nutritional needs or financial literacy/ Proposed service number Percent of children living in the region who are facing food insecurity Number and percent of pregnant women and children served by WIC in the region			
<b>SFY 2011 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy</b>			
<b>Allocation for proposed strategy</b>	\$ 10,000		
<b>Budget Justification:</b>			
Educational materials and administrative costs.....			\$1,000
Provision of food items and other basic childhood necessities as identified .....			\$9,000